

ECONOMY REPORT

REPORT DATE: AUG 26, 2020

PREPARED BY CITY OF SCOTTSDALE **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

This report is designed to provide an analysis of various components of the economy. The economy is a broad term used to describe movement of goods and services, also referred to as supply and demand. Economic conditions are largely dictated by people as conveyors of goods and services, and COVID-19 has dramatically altered the way that society is able to participate in the economy. Upticks and declines in the economy can be traced back to a variety of human-based factors that, when analyzed, can help to define current conditions and establish future projections.

This report considers nine economic indicators:





UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS



UNEMPLOYMENT **RATES**



INDUSTRY CHANGES



WARN **NOTICES**





COLLECTIONS



CONSTRUCTION **PERMITTING**



ONLINE JOB POSTINGS

@ OVERALL RECOVERY FORECAST

Hopes of a rapid recovery have all but faded at this point, but most economists do not believe the state is heading for a prolonged depression. Arizona was in a very strong position economically prior to the pandemic, and most consumers are still very hopeful about a vaccine and treatments. Business stability has to precede hiring workers back in order for recovery to happen. There will also be some lags in labor market recovery as people re-tool and change jobs or industries because their jobs have been permanently eliminated by the pandemic, or by changes in technology that are being accelerated by the pandemic.

In Arizona, there are reasons to be cautiously optimistic as the state budget impact of the pandemic in FY21 will likely be less severe than originally expected, and the real estate sector has remained strong. In addition, regional business expansion and relocation leads have continued amid the pandemic. However, Q2 GDP numbers show significant declines at both the national and local levels. Locally, the severe decline in the tourism industry in Q2 was responsible for much of that GDP loss.

The Arizona economic forecast from University of Arizona call for initial rapid gains in economic indicators, before the end of the year, but then much slower growth in 2021. It is likely that rapid gains from re-opening are almost through and the economy is expected to plateau at a much slower recovery rate for the next 12 to 18 months. Retail sales will also likely remain at lower levels throughout this year as job losses take a toll on household incomes. Restaurant and bar sales will continue to be constrained by social distancing with statewide in-restaurant dining down 57% over last year. In addition, the housing market will likely slow in the absence of in-migration, and the rate of foreclosures could rise in the coming months. The magnitude of the current downturn can be likened to the 2008 recession, but the duration is likely to be much shorter. The UA forecast calls for a return to pre-pandemic employment levels by Q1 2022.

Job-related in-migration has long been a key driver of growth in the Phoenix metro area. Although the economy appears to be stalled at the present time, people are still moving. A recent study by Hire a Helper, an on-line site to help people find and book moving companies, reported that Scottsdale was the number one city in the country in terms of net moves this year with 68% more people moving in versus out. For Arizona overall, only about 2% more people moved in than out in 2020. However, this still compares very favorable to states like California where 63% more people moved out. The top reasons for moving nationally included seeking a lower cost location, moving in with family, seeking a safer location with fewer COVID cases, seeking a destination with fewer restrictions, taking advantage of the COVID housing market to buy or sell a home, and moving to be able to work from home. To the extent that this trend continues, and the region can create jobs for movers in addition to re-employing existing residents, a modest level of in-migration could continue throughout the recovery.

© GDP & CONSUMER CONFIDENCE

In Q1 2020, real GDP declined by 5.0% nationally, demonstrating the depth and speed of the pandemic impact, given that the economy did not really start to decline until the last two weeks of the quarter. In Q2, GDP declined by a record 33%, the largest single-quarter decline in history, but not unexpected by most economists. Declines were largely driven by decreases in personal consumption expenditures, particularly in health services and apparel, during a period when much of the country was under stayat-home orders. Consumer spending accounts for about 70% of GDP. Nonetheless, the start of a recovery in GDP is projected for Q3 2020 with an increase of 11%, followed by quarterly growth of 4 to 6% through Q2 2021, based on forecasts from the Philadelphia Federal Reserve Bank.

The Conference Board, which tracks consumer confidence as a leading economic indicator, reported a drop of 5.7 points in July from 98.3 in June to 92.6 in July, following an increase between May and June. There are two factors that go into this index – the Present Situation Index and the Expectations Index, which interestingly moved in opposite directions in July. The Present Situation Index increased by 7.5 points, while the Expectations Index decreased by 14.6 points. The Expectations Index measures consumers' expectations for the next six months regarding the economy and labor market conditions. This uncertainty about the near future does not bode well for increased consumer spending in the coming months.

(B) UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS

There are a limited number of economic indicators that are reported at a frequency that captures current events in something close to real time. One of those indicators is unemployment insurance claims, which are reported weekly at national and state levels. In Arizona, more than 850,000 initial claims have been filed since mid-March. To put this in context, in March there were 2,994,000 total non-farm jobs in Arizona.

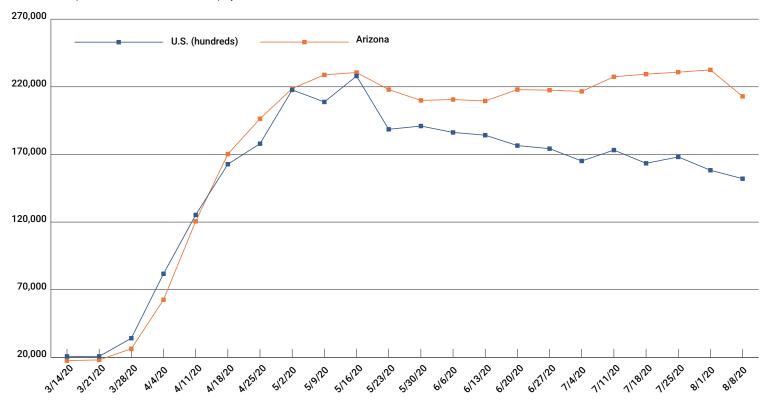
Nationally, over 52 million initial claims have been filed since mid-March. However, the number of initial claims filed peaked the week of April 4, 2020 at 6.2 million and has been gradually declining since then. A total of 832,000 initial claims (not seasonally adjusted) were filed nationally the week of August 8, 2020, which is the second week in a row in the 20 weeks since the pandemic began that initial claims (not seasonally adjusted) have dipped below one million. However, the number of claimants who indicate they have been laid off only temporarily is declining as more job losses become permanent.

Individuals must renew their claim every week, and so it is also important to track the number of continuing claims. The sum of initial claims and continuing claims reflects the total number of claims filed in a given week. As the economic effects of this pandemic took hold, the number of continuing claims spiked in mid-May, both nationally and in Arizona. Continuing claims nationally have slowly declined since May, while continuing claims in Arizona peaked again the week of August 1st at an even higher level than in mid-May. Initial claims in Arizona have been declining since July 11th, but continuing claims did not dip until this week (August 8th). It remains to be seen whether downward trend in claims in Arizona will continue. State level unemployment rates for July have not yet been released, but it does not appear that Arizona has been heading in the right direction on this measure.

An analysis of initial claims by industry in Arizona based on data for the week of August 1 shows that administrative services accounted for the largest share of initial claims at 12%, followed by health care and accommodations and food services, both at 10%, and retail trade at 9%. This is a shift from Q2 numbers when close to one third of initial claims were in accommodations and food services.

UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS (CONT.)

Weekly Continuing Unemployment Claims for Arizona and the United States (Not Seasonally Adjusted) Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Unemployment Insurance



UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS (CONT.)

Weekly Unemployment Insurance Claims for Arizona and the United States (Not Seasonally Adjusted) Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Unemployment Insurance

	Arizona			United States				
Week Ending	Initial Claims	Continuing Claims	% Of Covered Workforce	Initial Claims	Continuing Claims	% Of Covered Workforce		
3/14/20	3,844	17,595	0.7%	251,416	2,074,782	1.6%		
3/21/20	29,348	18,108	1.7%	2,920,160	2,074,736	3.4%		
3/28/20	88,940	26,387	4.0%	6,015,821	3,416,593	6.5%		
4/4/20	132,428	62,597	6.8%	6,203,359	8,177,965	9.9%		
4/11/20	98,531	120,592	7.7%	4,971,823	12,526,711	12.0%		
4/18/20	72,457	170,262	8.4%	4,281,648	16,277,222	14.1%		
4/25/20	52,581	196,401	8.6%	3,495,703	17,794,976	14.6%		
5/2/20	43,023	218,760	9.1%	2,855,560	21,772,592	16.9%		
5/9/20	31,570	228,806	9.0%	2,356,594	20,879,551	16.0%		
5/16/20	31,957	230,566	9.1%	2,181,640	22,794,138	17.1%		
5/23/20	26,868	217,968	8.5%	1,917,604	18,858,128	14.3%		
5/30/20	22,012	209,944	8.0%	1,620,008	19,098,475	14.2%		
6/6/20	24,367	210,605	8.1%	1,561,267	18,628,015	13.9%		
6/13/20	22,419	209,529	8.0%	1,463,363	18,422,569	13.7%		
6/20/20	25,886	217,934	8.5%	1,460,056	17,654,303	13.1%		
6/27/20	26,328	217,505	8.5%	1,431,343	17,427,940	12.9%		
7/4/20	25,774	216,603	8.3%	1,395,081	16,516,869	12.3%		
7/11/20	28,695	227,419	8.8%	1,512,763	17,321,213	12.9%		
7/18/20	21,441	229,352	8.6%	1,376,925	16,344,706	12.1%		
7/25/20	19,063	230,822	8.6%	1,207,044	16,815,199	12.3%		
8/1/20	15,561	232,497	8.5%	988,309	15,832,355	11.5%		
8/8/20	12,283	212,889	7.7%	831,856	15,207,671	11.0%		

WOUNDERSTAND OF THE STATES

The previous all-time high unemployment rate in Arizona was about 11% in 1982 during the global recession of the early 1980's. As of April 2020, the state unemployment rate peaked at 13.1% while the national rate rose to 14.4% (not seasonally adjusted). The highest unemployment rate on record for the U.S. was 24.9% in 1933. Since April, the national unemployment rate has slowly declined to 10.5% as of July 2020.

Arizona saw a quick and temporary bounce back when businesses re-opened in May and the unemployment rate dropped almost 4.5 points in one month to 8.8% (not seasonally adjusted). However, this rebound was short-lived and the unemployment rate was back up to 10.3% in June, although still below national levels.

Prior to the pandemic, unemployment rates in Arizona were at or near historical lows, in part

because of the length of the recovery cycle that began in 2012. Despite continued high levels of unemployment in Arizona currently, the state is fairing significantly better than some other western states including California and Nevada with unemployment rates lingering around 15%. In contrast, Utah has shown remarkable recovery and posted a June unemployment rate of 5.1%.

June labor force and unemployment data for the Phoenix metro area and for Scottsdale show similar patterns. The June 2020 unemployment rate for the Phoenix Metro area was 9.7% (up from 8.3% in May), and the corresponding rate for Scottsdale was 8.9% (up from 8.0% in May). Scottsdale's unemployment rate for June 2020 is similar to, or less than, many of the other larger cities in the metro area. Note that this data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics is based on place of residence, not place of work.

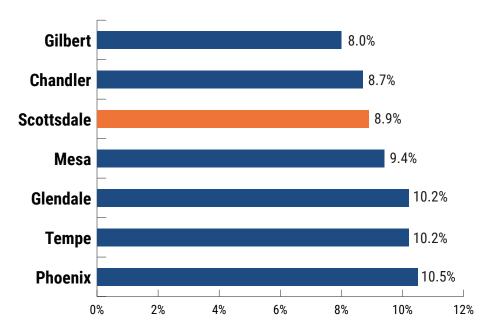
Labor Force and Unemployment Rate Changes

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Employment Statistics

	Current Data						Year over Year Percent Change							
	Jan 2020	Feb 2020	Mar 2020	Apr 2020	May 2020	June 2020	July 2020	Jan 2020	Feb 2020	Mar 2020	Apr 2020	May 2020	June 2020	July 2020
Labor Force														
National (in thousands)	163,497	164,235	162,537	155,830	157,975	160,883	161,374	1%	1%	0%	-4%	-3%	-2%	-2%
Arizona	3,616,271	3,633,324	3,588,453	3,534,894	3,541,208	3,499,212		3%	3%	2%	1%	1%	-1%	
Phoenix Metro	2,552,106	2,565,813	2,525,513	2,491,579	2,499,631	2,471,241		4%	4%	2%	1%	1%	-1%	
Scottsdale	154,001	154,883	152,020	151,495	151,575	148,998		4%	4%	2%	2%	2%	-1%	
Employment														
National (in thousands)	156,994	158,017	155,167	133,326	137,461	142,811	144,492	1%	1%	-1%	-15%	-13%	-10%	-9%
Arizona	3,448,584	3,475,066	3,368,003	3,070,772	3,230,745	3,139,703		4%	4%	0%	-8%	-4%	-7%	
Phoenix Metro	2,448,761	2,467,032	2,388,291	2,181,049	2,292,570	2,230,545		5%	4%	1%	-8%	-3%	-6%	
Scottsdale	148,864	149,988	145,152	132,656	139,514	135,729		5%	4%	1%	-8%	-3%	-6%	
Unemploymer	nt Rate													
National	4.0%	3.8%	4.5%	14.4%	13.0%	11.2%	10.5%	-10%	-7%	16%	335%	284%	193%	163%
Arizona	4.6%	4.4%	6.1%	13.1%	8.8%	10.3%		-10%	-8%	30%	193%	91%	104%	
Phoenix Metro	4.0%	3.8%	5.4%	12.5%	8.3%	9.7%		-11%	-9%	29%	216%	107%	122%	
Scottsdale	3.3%	3.2%	4.5%	12.4%	8.0%	8.9%		-14%	-9%	31%	264%	134%	139%	
Note: Not seasona	lly adjusted.													

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES (CONT.)

Unemployment Rates by City (June 2020)Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Employment Statistics





In order to better understand how this pandemic is affecting the economy, it is important to look at changes in employment by industry since not all industries are affected evenly, and not all industries are equally represented in terms of jobs. Changes in industry employment between January 2020 and June 2020 can be compared for the U.S. and the Phoenix metro area, providing useful insights about the varying level of impacts across different sectors. Note that July data is available for the U.S. only, while the most current state and local data is for June.

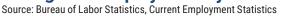
The Bureau of Labor Statistics Current Employment Survey showed a decline in nonfarm employment of 7% nationwide (not seasonally adjusted) from January 2020 to July 2020. The nation lost 19.7 million jobs from January 2020 to April 2020, although 8.7 million jobs have been added back since April 2020, so we are close to half way back to pre-pandemic levels. In the Phoenix metro area, the decline in nonfarm employment from January 2020 to April 2020 was 9% or 198,500 jobs, of which only 43,500 jobs had been added back through June 2020 (most current local data available).

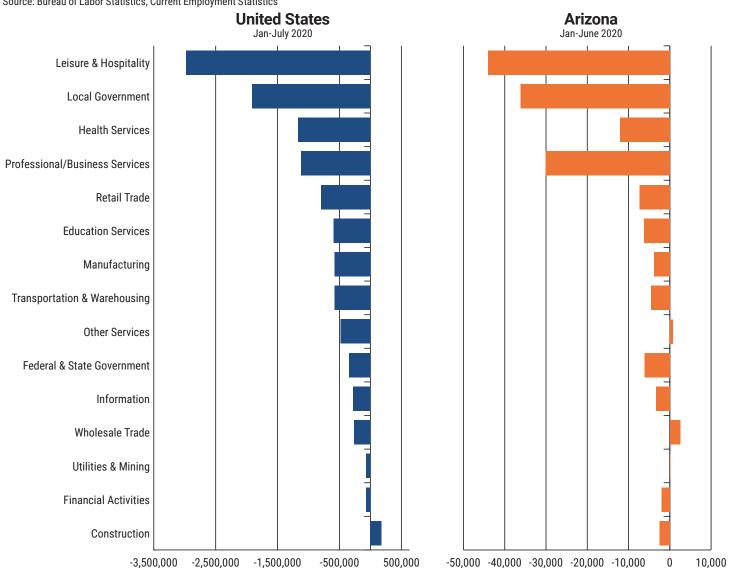
- Unlike previous recessions, the construction sector has come back quickly. Although construction lost 754,000 jobs from January to April 2020 nationally, 932,700 jobs have been added back, resulting in a 2% net increase in employment in this sector year to date. The strongest rebound has been in specialty trades. Locally, construction has not performed quite as well and is still down 2,500 jobs (2%) as this sector has continued to decline month over month since March in metro Phoenix.
- Not surprisingly, the greatest losses nationally and locally were in **leisure and hospitality**. While there is significant seasonality in this sector, employment nationally is still down 19% year to date through July, as consumers remain cautious about travel and many restaurants remain closed or at significantly reduced capacity. In the Phoenix metro area, leisure and hospitality employment is down 19% year to date through June, although summer is a low season for tourism in Arizona, unlike elsewhere in the country. Comparing June 2020 to June 2019, leisure and hospitality employment is down about 16% in metro Phoenix.
- ▶ The second highest level of job losses year to date are in **local government** at 13%. Although most of this difference is due to seasonal fluctuations in public education, there have been some declines in municipal government employment due to lower expected tax revenues in FY21. Year over year, local government employment is down 6% at the national level and 8% in metro Phoenix.
- ▶ Health services is still down 6% (1.2 million jobs) nationally and 7% (12,100 jobs) locally between January and June/July 2020. Absolute job losses in this sector ranked third nationally and fourth locally. There is now a backlog of delayed medical and dental procedures that will help stimulate recovery in the health care sector. However, unlike the Great Recession when the health care sector in metro Phoenix added more than 23,000 jobs despite concurrent losses in most other sectors, there is likely to be some sluggishness as consumers are wary of potential contact with other patients.
- ▶ The professional and business services sector has also been heavily impacted by the pandemic, despite the ability of many professional service workers to work from home. This sector is still down year to date by 5% (1.1 million jobs) nationally and 8% (30,100 jobs) locally. Most of those losses were in administrative and support services, and unlike other sectors locally that have seen significant recovery, this sector has been flat since April.

INDUSTRY CHANGES (CONT.)

- ▶ There were also large declines in **retail trade**, although most of these jobs have come back. The nation is down just 5% year to date (795,000 jobs), and metro Phoenix is down 3% (7,300 jobs) in retail trade. The retail sector accounts for 1 in every 10 jobs.
- ▶ The manufacturing sector lost over 1.3 million jobs nationally, although over half of those jobs have now come back. Manufacturing is down 5% (581,000 jobs) nationally year to date through July. Durable goods in general were hit harder than nondurable goods. In the Phoenix metro area, where manufacturing accounts for 6% of total employment, compared to 8.5% nationally, manufacturing is down 3% (3,800 jobs) year to date for 2020.

Changes in Employment by Industry







Under the Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act (WARN), employers are required to provide 60-day written notice to employees in advance of mass layoffs. These notices are tracked by the Arizona Department of Economic Security. Sixteen WARN notices have been issued by companies in Scottsdale since mid-March representing a total of close to 2,300 jobs, although no additional notices have been filed

since mid-June. The majority of these notices were from restaurants and hotels, although many other smaller restaurants have laid off employees without issuing WARN notices. While there are fines for companies that do not file WARN notices, they are not enforced in Arizona. However, to the extent that larger employers do file notices, they can continue to be tracked in real time.

Warn Notices of Layoffs in Scottsdale Source: Arizona Department of Economic Security, Arizona Job Connection

Employer	Notice Date	Employees Affected
Benihana Midtown	4/5/20	52
Benihana Scottsdale	4/5/20	53
Four Seasons Resort	3/20/20	422
McCormick Scottsdale	3/30/20	65
Mind Body	4/7/20	91
Passport Health	3/23/20	65
Suit Supply	4/8/20	9
Yelp	4/9/20	375
Open Door	4/15/20	145
The Scott Resort and Spa	5/4/20	123
Fairmont Scottsdale Princess	6/8/20	13
Hyatt Regency Scottsdale Resort	6/12/20	357
Scottsdale Marriott at McDowell Mountains	6/2/20	122
Scottsdale Marriott Old Town	6/4/20	75
SW Resorts and Restaurants WW	6/3/20	128
The Scottsdale Resort at McCormick Ranch	6/5/20	126
Andaz Scottsdale Resort	6/15/20	56
Total for 2020		2,277

Note: All COVID-19, except Suit Supply that was listed as temporary furlough.

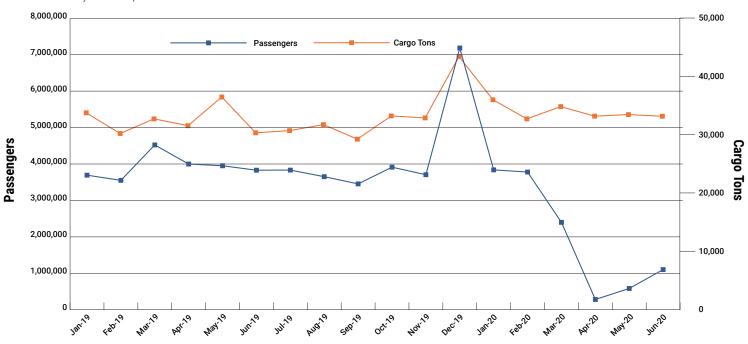


TOURISM

Tourism is an important part of Arizona's and Scottsdale's economic base, and has been hit hard by the pandemic. Although many consumers are continuing to vacation this summer, a much higher percentage are traveling by air. Passenger enplanements at Sky Harbor dropped by 88% between March 2020 and April 2020, compared to a 27% normal seasonal decrease during the same period in 2019. With the start of the summer travel season, June showed a strong rebound in passenger travel through Sky Harbor, up 88% from May 2020, but still 71% below June 2019 enplanement levels.

Passenger and Cargo Volume Trends Sky Harbor International Airport

Source: Phoenix Sky Harbor Airport Statistics



Note: Passenger counts include enplanements and deplanements. Cargo includes mail and freight enplaned and deplaned.

The impact to the hotel industry in Scottsdale in March, April and May was devastating. Several hotels closed during March and April, resulting in a loss of about 1,100 rooms, while occupancy rates dropped precipitously from 83% in February to a low of 10% in April, according to Smith Travel Research. Since the beginning of May 2020, several hotels including the Hyatt Regency Scottsdale Resort, the Omni Scottsdale Resort and The Scott Resort & Spa have re-opened and overall occupancy rates have increased modestly to 27.5% as of the July 2020, or demand of about 100,102 monthly room nights.

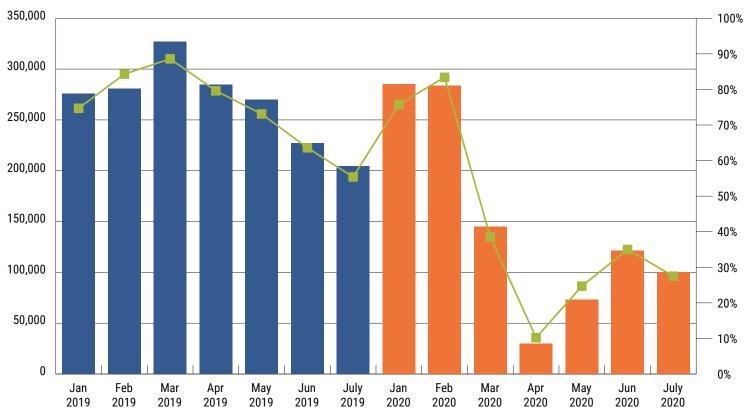
Average daily room rates (ADR) fell from \$281 in March 2020 to a low of \$97 in April 2020, compared to \$310 dollars in March 2019 and \$245 in April 2019. As occupancy rates begin to recover, average

room rates have risen to \$130 as of July 2020, which is 7% above June 2019. The timing of this crisis was particularly unfortunate for Arizona and for Scottsdale, hitting at the peak of the tourist season. However, local hotels may be benefitting from more staycations by local residents this summer.

CBRE forecasts that the hotel industry nationally will return to normal occupancy rates by the third quarter of 2022, with economy hotels leading the turnaround in 2020, but higher-priced properties expected to accommodate more of the increased demand in 2021. Drive-to destinations are expected to recover more quickly, while properties that are heavily reliant on meetings and conferences will lag as long as large gatherings remain limited.

TOURISM (CONT.)

Weekly Room Demand and Occupancy Rate, 2020 vs 2019 Source: Smith Travel Research custom report for Scottsdale, August 2020



Tourism Impacts in Scottsdale

Source: Smith Travel Research custom report for Scottsdale, August 2020

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
Room Supply	376,371	339,948	376,371	293,010	295,492	346,770	364,653
Current Occupancy Rate	75.8%	83.4%	38.5%	10.2%	24.7%	35.0%	27.5%
Last Year Occupancy Rate	74.7%	84.3%	88.6%	79.6%	73.1%	63.6%	55.4%
Current ADR	\$257.33	\$284.48	\$281.22	\$97.19	\$129.38	\$138.09	\$129.68
Last Year ADR	\$248.63	\$279.16	\$309.72	\$244.58	\$188.96	\$134.52	\$120.79
% Difference	3.5%	1.9%	-9.2%	-60.3%	-31.5%	2.6%	7.4%
Current Weekly Room Demand*	285,296	283,667	144,964	29,885	73,009	121,447	100,102
Last Year Weekly Room Demand*	275,624	280,850	326,936	284,577	269,886	227,234	204,561
% Difference	3.5%	1.0%	-55.7%	-89.5%	-72.9%	-46.6%	-51.1%

^{*}Represents total room-nights over a period of a week.

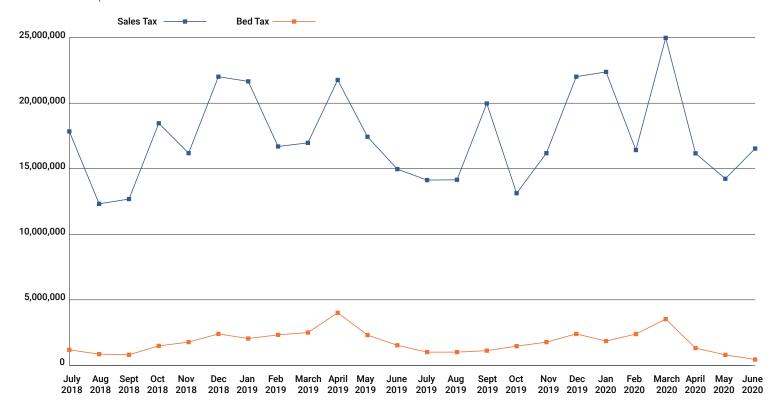
SALES TAX COLLECTIONS

The most current sales tax collections data available is for activity occurring in May 2020 (June 2020 collections) and shows a year over year increase of 10.5% for Scottsdale.¹ The most significant increases year over year are in utilities (+120%), department stores (+58%) and miscellaneous retail (+53%). While restaurant sales are still down about 8% year over year, the only sector that is sharply below June 2019 levels in Scottsdale is hotel/motel sales (-72%).

One of the important concepts to keep in mind in terms of retail sales is the difference between deferred demand and lost demand. Deferred or pent-up demand is what drives recoveries, and it is likely that consumers will come out of this period with some degree of pent-up demand for durable goods such as vehicles, furniture and appliances. However, there will be lost demand for personal services, restaurants and seasonal apparel purchases that will not rebound as the economy recovers.

Monthly Sales and Bed Tax Collections

Source: Arizona Department of Revenue

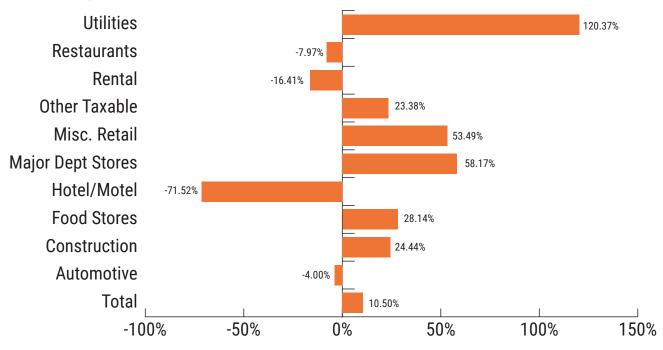


¹ This type of year over year comparison eliminates normal seasonal fluctuations.

SALES TAX COLLECTIONS (CONT.)

June Year Over Year Changes in Collections by Sector

Source: Arizona Department of Revenue



® CONSTRUCTION PERMITTING

Housing construction in Arizona is primarily driven by in-migration, which has accounted for more than 80% of statewide population growth in the past two years. The relative speed of recovery in Arizona versus recovery rates in surrounding states like California and Nevada could result in a renewed flow of in-migrants if Arizona is able to support sustained job creation.

The housing market in metro Phoenix has remained strong despite the pandemic. Mortgage rates are at record lows, which has boosted the stock market. The Case-Shiller Home Price Index, which tracks changes in residential real estate prices in the 20 largest metro areas showed Phoenix leading the nation in July with a 9% year over year price increase, compared to 3.7% national average. That said, the housing market is certainly not out of the woods and a rash of foreclosures could be coming and as the state's hold on renter evictions comes to an end.

Total permitting in Scottsdale for Q2 is down about 19% year over year. Residential permitting activity including, both single and multi-family projects as well as alterations, was up in February and March 2020, compared to the same period in 2019, but then declined significantly in April and May 2020. The impact was more in alterations and additions than in new construction. Residential new home permits in Q2 2020 were up slightly, about 11% year over year, while residential alterations and additions (which are the majority of residential permits) were down 41%. Data for July is now available, showing a significant up-tick in residential activity with an 11% increase in new permits year over year, and a 41% increase in alterations and additions, which likely reflects some pent up demand from Q2.

In Scottsdale, the number of commercial permits issued in the second quarter of 2020 was down somewhat over 2019 levels, with a 71% increase

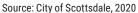
CONSTRUCTION PERMITTING (CONT.)

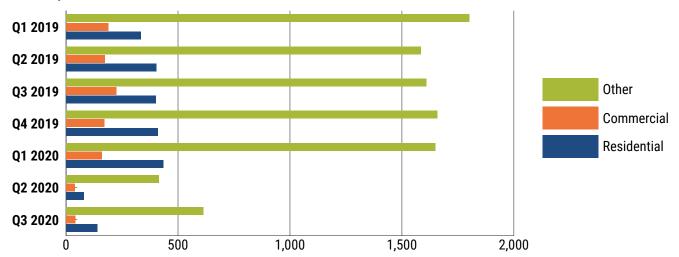
year over year in new commercial buildings and a 35% decrease in commercial alterations (which make up the bulk of commercial permits). New numbers for July show a decrease in new commercial buildings and continuing large declines in commercial alterations and additions.

The pandemic could have a significant impact on the office market in Scottsdale, although the direction of that impact is not yet clear. The amount of office sublease space increased dramatically regionally from 1.36 million square feet in Q1 2020 to

2.0 million square feet in Q2 2020, but is still below 2017 peak levels, according to Andrew Cheney, a principal with Lee & Associates. This increase in sublease space is mostly due to businesses needing less space due to employees working from home, and fewer businesses looking for expansion space as companies pause to reconsider their real estate needs. Despite this trend, the overall office vacancy rate is at 15.8%, down from 16.2% in the first quarter, and average lease rates are relatively flat.

Number of Building Permits Issued by Type





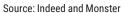
Note: Q3 20 only includes July.

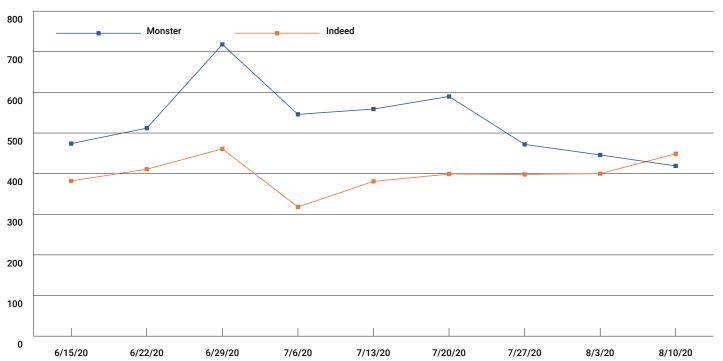


Job postings are a leading indicator of employment growth and because businesses tend to hire when they anticipate an increase in demand for their good or service within the next one or two months. Nationally, job postings dropped dramatically in April, but rose somewhat in May, in part due to PPP loan forgiveness requirements, combined with many states re-opening their economies. However, there was a leveling off in June. This is consistent with changes in industry employment, with about a one month lag. Chmura Analytics estimated that job postings for Arizona for June were about 30% below what would be expected without the pandemic.

For Scottsdale, the total number of jobs posted on on-line websites gradually increased throughout June, dropping the first week in July, and becoming relatively flat or declining since mid-July. A portion of this decline is due to normal seasonal fluctuations. Most of the jobs posted in the past week are medical office jobs, mortgage lending and title companies, customer service and IT jobs. There are also a variety of postings for part-time delivery drivers, and some jobs at hotels and restaurants.

Full-Time Jobs Posted in Previous 7 Days





QUESTIONS?

For questions about this report, contact Rob Millar, Economic Development Director



480-312-2533



rmillar@ScottsdaleAZ.gov



ChooseScottsdale.com